

LIBRARY



URBAN DISTRICT OF VELWYN GARDEN CITY

Interim Annual Medical Report for the year 1947

1. Statistics.

Rateable value at December 31st, 1947. £159,002
Inhabited houses at December 31st, 1947. 4,678

The population figure supplied by the Registrar General was 18,230
Statistics have been calculated with this figure.

		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Number of deaths from all causes		72	64	136
Number of live births.	Legitimate.	199	196	395
	Illegitimate.	11	8	19
Number of still births	Legitimate	5	-	5
	Illegitimate	-	1	-
Number of deaths of infants under one year.	Legitimate	5	3	8
	Illegitimate	-	-	-

	<u>1947.</u>	<u>1946.</u>	<u>1945.</u>	<u>1944.</u>
Live birth rate per 1,000 of the population.	22.07	24.18	19.87	22.82
Still birth rate per 1,000 live and still births.	14.28	16.09	28.25	27.30
Crude death rate per 1,000 of the population.	7.46	6.44	7.10	7.42
Death rate of all infants per 1,000 live births.	19.32	28.03	49.42	28.06
Death rate of all legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births.	20.05	30.76	47.92	29.97
Death rate of all illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births.	-	-	64.51	-
Death rate for all infants under one year for England and Wales is 41.				

Of the 8 infant deaths 3 were due to prematurity and 2 to congenital defects and were not therefore preventable.

2. Infectious Disease.

The following cases of infectious disease were notified during the year:-

Diphtheria	2	Measles	401	Erysipelas	3
Scarlet Fever	8	Tuberculosis	35	Poliomyelitis	2
Whooping Cough	26	Pneumonia	6	Cerebro Spinal Fever	1
Jaundice	2				

During the year 83 visits were made concerning the occurrence of cases of infectious disease.

3. Diphtheria Immunisation.

During the year 12 children under five and 10 children over five years of age were immunised. 531 children received a reinforcing injection during the year.

4. Tuberculosis.

There were 16 deaths from tuberculosis during the year.

	<u>Male.</u>		<u>Female.</u>	
	<u>Pulm.</u>	<u>Non-Pulm.</u>	<u>Pulm.</u>	<u>Non-Pulm.</u>
On the register at 31st December 1946.	76	28	54	14
Removals from register during the year.	13	1	13	2
Added to register during the year.	20	2	14	1
Cases on register at 31st December 1947.	83	29	55	13

Total number of cases 180.

5. Scabies.

During the year 110 treatments were given, 46 to children, 29 to women, and 35 to men.

6. Sanitary circumstances of the area.

(i) Water. (Public Supply).

Twenty one samples from the public supply were obtained during the year.

Bacteriological Examinations.

<u>After chlorination</u>		<u>Before chlorination</u>	
<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>
8	1	4	2

Chemical Examinations

<u>After chlorination</u>		<u>Before chlorination</u>	
<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>
5	-	1	-

The figures show that 3 unsatisfactory samples were obtained during the year. The great majority of the supply is chlorinated before it is distributed to consumers. It will be noted that only one chlorinated sample was unsatisfactory.

The samples described as unsatisfactory were only slightly so. They showed slight bacterial impurity since coliform organisms were present in small numbers. In the absence of bacteria of excremental type the bacteriologist considered there was no evidence of dangerous contamination.

Particulars of the number of dwelling-houses and the number of population supplied from public mains are as follows :-

	Number of dwelling <u>houses</u>	Number of <u>population</u>
(a) Direct to houses	4665	18,198
(b) By means of stand-pipes.	11	27

(ii) Milk.

During the year 122 samples were obtained and submitted to the Ministry of Health Laboratory Service for examination.

	<u>Total samples</u>	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>
<u>Designated Milk</u>	77	55	22
<u>Undesignated Milk</u>	45	37	8

The number of unsatisfactory samples shows an increase on previous years. All unsatisfactory samples were followed up.

On June 3rd, 11 samples were obtained from the six purveyors selling milk in the town, and all were found to be unsatisfactory. On July 22nd, 12 samples were obtained of which 10 were found to be unsatisfactory. These failures which may reasonably be attributed to abnormal hot weather, make the general quality of the towns milk supply appear lower than it was. Whilst samples of milk should pass the prescribed tests, even in summer, the record breaking high temperatures during the year were sufficient to cause initially clean milk to fail to pass the tests.

(iii) General

During the year 976 inspections were made. Two informal notices outstanding from 1946, were complied with. 55 informal notices and 1 statutory notice were served and complied with during the year. One retail purveyor of milk was prosecuted and fined £2 with £3.3.0 costs for selling milk in a dirty bottle.

(iv) Factories Act, 1937.

89 factories with mechanical power, and 3 without mechanical power are registered. During the year 71 inspections were made. 4 cases of default were found, these comprised, dirty sanitary conveniences, absence of intervening ventilated space to sanitary conveniences, and insufficient sanitary conveniences. One case of insufficient conveniences was outstanding at the end of the year.

All factories in the town are of modern construction. A wide range of articles are made or assembled providing opportunity for a considerable variety of employment. The prescribed particulars required by the factories act are as follows :-

1. INSPECTIONS.

(i)	<u>Premises</u>	Number on		Written Occupiers	
		<u>register.</u>	<u>Inspections</u>	<u>Notices</u>	<u>Prosecuted.</u>
(i)	Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	3	3	-	-
(ii)	Factories not included in (i) to which Section 7 applies				
	(a) Subject to Local Authorities (Transfer of Enforcement) Order, 1938.	Nil	-	-	-
	(b) Others	89	69	4	-
(iii)	Other Premises under the Act (Excluding out-workers premises)	Nil	-	-	-
TOTAL :		92	72	4	-

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

	Number of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred To HM. Inspector.	By HM. Inspector.	
Sanitary Conveniences :					
(a) insufficient	2	1	-	1	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	-	-	-
TOTAL:	4	3	-	1	-

3. OUTWORK. (Section 110 and 111)

Four outworkers are known to be employed in the district, these are engaged in the making of wearing apparel, in satisfactory premises. No formal action was taken during the year.

7. Housing.

There is still a serious shortage of houses in this town. At the end of the year there were 1918 persons registered as applicants for Council Houses, compared with 1673 registered at December 1946.

Council Offices,
WELWYN GARDEN CITY,
Herts.

J.E. DICKSON

Medical Officer of Health